WHAT IS CLAIMED IS: Net

1   1.   A computer implemented method comprising:

2   retrieving an enhanced presence ping bit;

3   identifying that the enhanced presence ping bit is
4   enabled, wherein the enablement of the enhanced
5   presence ping bit corresponds to an enhanced presence
6   ping mode;

7   collecting enhanced status information based upon the
8   identification; and

9   sending the enhanced status information to an access
10   point over a wireless network.

1   2.   Net The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2   determining that a timer is enabled, the timer
3   corresponding to a time at which to send the enhanced
4   status information;

5   detecting that the enabled timer has expired; and

6   performing the collecting and the sending in response
7   to the detecting.

1   3.   The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2   receiving a ping request from the access point; and

3   performing the collecting and the sending in response
4   to receiving the ping request.

1   4.   The method of claim 1 wherein the enhanced status
2   information is selected from the group consisting of a
3   total packet number, a signal strength, and a system
4   power state.

1 5.   The method of claim 1 further comprising:

2   receiving an enhanced presence ping control packet

3   from the access point; and

4   enabling the enhanced presence ping bit in response to

5   receiving the enhanced presence ping control packet.

1 6.   The method of claim 5 wherein the access point is

2   adapted to send the enhanced presence ping control

3   packet in response to receiving an administrator

4   request from an administrator, and wherein the access

5   point is also adapted to provide the collected

6   enhanced status information to the administrator.

1 7.   The method of claim 1 wherein the wireless network

2   functions as a shared transmission medium.

1 8.   An information handling system comprising:

2   one or more processors;

3   a memory accessible by the processors;

4   one or more nonvolatile storage devices accessible by

5   the processors;

6   one or more registers;

7   one or more timers; and

8   a enhanced presence ping tool for providing enhanced

9   status information, the enhanced presence ping tool

10   comprising software code effective to:

11   retrieve an enhanced presence ping bit from

12   one of the registers;

13   identify that the enhanced presence ping bit

14   is enabled, wherein the enablement of the

15   enhanced presence ping bit corresponds to an

16   enhanced presence ping mode;

17   collect enhanced status information from one

18   of the nonvolatile storage devices based

19   upon the identification; and

20   send the enhanced status information to an

21   access point over a wireless network.

1 9.   The information handling system of claim 8 wherein the

2   software code is further effective to:

3   determine that one of the timers is enabled, the timer

4   corresponding to a time at which to send the enhanced

5   status information;

6   detect that the enabled timer has expired; and

7   perform the collecting and the sending in response to

8   the detecting.

1 10.   The information handling system of claim 8 wherein the

2   software code is further effective to:

3   receive a ping request from the access point; and

4   perform the collecting and the sending in response to

5   receiving the ping request.

1 11.   The information handling system of claim 8 wherein the

2   enhanced status information is selected from the group

3   consisting of a total packet number, a signal

4   strength, and a system power state.

1   12.   The information handling system of claim 8 wherein the
2   software code is further effective to:
3   receive an enhanced presence ping control packet from
4   the access point; and

5   enable the enhanced presence ping bit in response to
6   receiving the enhanced presence ping control packet.

1   13.   The information handling system of claim 12 wherein
2   the access point is adapted to send the enhanced
3   presence ping control packet in response to receiving
4   an administrator request from an administrator, and
5   wherein the access point is also adapted to provide
6   the collected enhanced status information to the
7   administrator.

1   14.   A program product comprising: *Ne/*
2   computer operable medium having computer program code,
3   the computer program code being effective to:

4   retrieve an enhanced presence ping bit;

5   identify that the enhanced presence ping bit
6   is enabled, wherein the enablement of the
7   enhanced presence ping bit corresponds to an
8   enhanced presence ping mode;

9   collect enhanced status information based
10   upon the identifying; and

11   send the enhanced status information to an
12   access point over a wireless network.

1   15.   The program product of claim 14 wherein the software
2   code is further effective to:

3   determine that a timer is enabled, the timer
4   corresponding to a time at which to send the enhanced
5   status information;

6   detect that the enabled timer has expired; and

7   perform the collecting and the sending in response to
8   the detecting.

1   16. The program product of claim 14 wherein the software
2   code is further effective to:
3   receive a ping request from the access point; and

4   perform the collecting and the sending in response to
5   receiving the ping request.

1   17. The program product of claim 14 wherein the enhanced
2   status information is selected from the group
3   consisting of a total packet number, a signal
4   strength, and a system power state.

1   18. The program product of claim 14 wherein the software
2   code is further effective to:
3   receive an enhanced presence ping control packet from
4   the access point; and

5   enable the enhanced presence ping bit in response to
6   receiving the enhanced presence ping control packet.

1   19. The program product of claim 18 wherein the access
2   point is adapted to send the enhanced presence ping
3   control packet in response to receiving an
4   administrator request from an administrator, and
5   wherein the access point is also adapted to provide

6   the collected enhanced status information to the

7   administrator.

1   20.   The program product of claim 14 wherein the wireless

2   network functions as a shared transmission medium.

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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A computer implemented method comprising:

    retrieving an enhanced presence ping bit;   (line 15 --17)

    identifying that the enhanced presence ping bit is

    enabled, wherein the enablement of the enhanced

    presence ping bit corresponds to an enhanced presence

    ping mode;

    collecting enhanced status information based upon the

    identification; and

    sending the enhanced status information to an access

    point over a wireless network.

2.   The method of claim 1 further comprising:

    determining that a timer is enabled, the timer

    corresponding to a time at which to send the enhanced

    status information;

    detecting that the enabled timer has expired; and

    performing the collecting and the sending in response

    to the detecting.

3.   The method of claim 1 further comprising:

    receiving a ping request from the access point; and

    performing the collecting and the sending in response

    to receiving the ping request.   (col 1 [0022]

4.   The method of claim 1 wherein the enhanced status

    information is selected from the group consisting of a

    total packet number, a signal strength, and a system

    power state.   Lines 10 - 15

1　5.　The method of claim 1 further comprising:

2　　receiving an enhanced presence ping control packet

3　　from the access point; and

4　　enabling the enhanced presence ping bit in response to

5　　receiving the enhanced presence ping control packet.

1　6.　The method of claim 5 wherein the access point is

2　　adapted to send the enhanced presence ping control

3　　packet in response to receiving an administrator

4　　request from an administrator, and wherein the access

5　　point is also adapted to provide the collected

6　　enhanced status information to the administrator.

1　7.　The method of claim 1 wherein the wireless network

2　　functions as a shared transmission medium.

1　8.　An information handling system comprising:

2　　one or more processors;

3　　a memory accessible by the processors;

4　　one or more nonvolatile storage devices accessible by

5　　the processors;

6　　one or more registers;

7　　one or more timers; and

8　　a enhanced presence ping tool for providing enhanced

9　　status information, the enhanced presence ping tool

10　　comprising software code effective to:

11　　　retrieve an enhanced presence ping bit from

12　　　one of the registers;

13   identify that the enhanced presence ping bit

14   is enabled, wherein an enablement of the

15   enhanced presence ping bit corresponds to an

16   enhanced presence ping mode;

17   collect enhanced status information from one

18   of the nonvolatile storage devices based

19   upon the identification; and

20   send the enhanced status information to an

21   access point over a wireless network.

1   9.   The information handling system of claim 8 wherein the

2   software code is further effective to:

3   determine that one of the timers is enabled, the timer

4   corresponding to a time at which to send the enhanced

5   status information;

6   detect that the enabled timer has expired; and

7   perform the collecting and the sending in response to

8   the detecting.

1   10. The information handling system of claim 8 wherein the

2   software code is further effective to:

3   receive a ping request from the access point; and

4   perform the collecting and the sending in response to

5   receiving the ping request.

1   11. The information handling system of claim 8 wherein the

2   enhanced status information is selected from the group

3   consisting of a total packet number, a signal

4   strength, and a system power state.

12. The information handling system of claim 8 wherein the software code is further effective to:

receive an enhanced presence ping control packet from the access point; and

enable the enhanced presence ping bit in response to receiving the enhanced presence ping control packet.

13. The information handling system of claim 12 wherein the access point is adapted to send the enhanced presence ping control packet in response to receiving an administrator request from an administrator, and wherein the access point is also adapted to provide the collected enhanced status information to the administrator.

14. A program product comprising:

computer operable medium having computer program code, the computer program code being effective to:

retrieve an enhanced presence ping bit;

identify that the enhanced presence ping bit is enabled, wherein the enablement of the enhanced presence ping bit corresponds to an enhanced presence ping mode;

collect enhanced status information based upon the identifying; and

send the enhanced status information to an access point over a wireless network.

15. The program product of claim 14 wherein the software code is further effective to:

3   determine that a timer is enabled, the timer

4   corresponding to a time at which to send the enhanced

5   status information;

6   detect that the enabled timer has expired; and

7   perform the collecting and the sending in response to

8   the detecting.

1   16.   The program product of claim 14 wherein the software

2   code is further effective to:

3   receive a ping request from the access point; and

4   perform the collecting and the sending in response to

5   receiving the ping request.

1   17.   The program product of claim 14 wherein the enhanced

2   status information is selected from the group

3   consisting of a total packet number, a signal

4   strength, and a system power state.

1   18.   The program product of claim 14 wherein the software

2   code is further effective to:

3   receive an enhanced presence ping control packet from

4   the access point; and

5   enable the enhanced presence ping bit in response to

6   receiving the enhanced presence ping control packet.

1   19.   The program product of claim 18 wherein the access

2   point is adapted to send the enhanced presence ping

3   control packet in response to receiving an

4   administrator request from an administrator, and

5   wherein the access point is also adapted to provide

6   the collected enhanced status information to the

7   administrator.

1   20.   The program product of claim 14 wherein the wireless

2   network functions as a shared transmission medium.